GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:643
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2000
TOURIST CENTRES
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the names of top tourist centres of the country which were visited by maximum number of domestic and foreign tourists during each of the last three years;

(b) the total income in foreign exchange and Indian currency earned from these tourists; and

(c) the initiatives being taken to boost tourism at these tourist centres ?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE

(SHRI ANANTHKUMAR)

(a),(b) and (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENTIN REPLY TO LOK SABHAS STARRED QUESTION NO. 643 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.5.2000REGARDING TOURIST CENTRES

(a): According to International Passenger Survey Report on Foreign Tourists datedDecember 1999, the top ten places in India visited by foreign tourists are:

i)	Delhi	vi)	Jaipur
ii)	Mumbai	vii)	Varanasi
iii)	Agra	viii)	Bangalore
iv)	Chennai	ix)	Panjim
v)	Calcutta	x)	Udaipur

On the basis of estimates available, the top ten States popular with domestic tourists are:

i)	Andhra Pradesh	vi)	Madhya Pradesh
ii)	Uttar Pradesh	vii)	Maharashtra
iii)	Tamil Nadu	viii)	Rajasthan
iv)	Karnataka	ix)	Jammu & Kashmir
v)	Bihar	x)	Kerala

(b): Estimated foreign exchange earnings from tourism in Indian & foreign currency during last three years are as follows:-

Year	Foreign Exchange Earnings	
	In Rs. Crores	In US$ million
1997	10725.64	2913.54
1998	11950.78	2935.15
1999	13041.81	3035.69

(c): Initiatives taken to boost tourism in the country include Central financial assistance to the State Governments./U.T. Administrations for the improvement of infrastructure facilities, development of tourist attractions, strengthening of publicity and promotional efforts, use of information `technology and encouraging private investments in the tourism sector including hotels by providing various incentives

like tax exemption, interest subsidy, concessional custom duty on import etc.. During the year 1999-2000, 416 project/schemes for an amount of Rs. 9427.78 lakhs have been sanctioned for State Governments/U.T. Administrations towards Central financial assistance for the implementation of various tourism projects.